

In the Specification:

At pages 1-2, lines 7-22 and 1-7 respectively, please amend the paragraph (line 13) as follows:

This patent document is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/005,053, entitled "Videocommunicating Apparatus and Method Therefor", filed on January 1, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/908,826, filed on August 8, 1997 (now U.S. Patent 5,790,712), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/658,917, filed on May 31, 1996 (now abandoned), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/303,973 ~~07/303,973~~, filed September 9, 1994 (now abandoned), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/838,382, filed on February 19, 1992, (now U.S. Patent No. 5,379,351). This patent document is further related to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/212,220 (8X8S.246P1), entitled "Communications System Architecture" and filed on June 16, 2000; to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60,212,221 (8X8S.248P1), entitled "IP Phone Circuit Arrangement and Method" and filed on June 16, 2000; to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/597,704 (8X8S.249PA), entitled "Communications Controller and Method Therefor" and filed on June 16, 2000, to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/211,993 (8X8S.254P1), entitled "High Availability IP Telephony" and filed on June 16, 2000; to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/212,215 (8X8S.255P1), entitled "System Interface Implementation for Hosted iPBX" and filed on June 16, 2000; to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60,211,992 (8X8S.256P1), entitled "IP Telephony Station Equipment" and filed on June 16, 2000; and to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60,212,219 (8X8S.257P1), entitled "iPBX Hosting" and filed on June 16, 2000. All of the above-mentioned documents, as well as the documents appended hereto, are fully incorporated herein by reference.

At pages 8-9, lines 22-23 and 1-4 respectively, please amend the paragraph:

The OOP router is configurable for use in various applications including system administration, office administration, personal communications management, and service provider administration of subscribers. For more information regarding example applications to which the present invention applies, reference may be made to "8x8 Intraswitch Synthesis of Form," which is provided in the underlying patent document ~~append hereto~~ and fully incorporated herein by reference.

At pages 12-13, lines 22-23 and 1-7 respectively, please amend the paragraph (by inserting one comma after the word "ability"):

In addition to programming the server at the user premise 120, the server may also be programmed at remote locations, such as at a communications device communicatively coupled to the Internet or to the PSTN. As discussed in connection with communications devices located the user premise, various control inputs are provided to the server via the respective connections using remote communications devices. For example, Internet communications devices such as a computer, a wireless telephone having Internet communications ability, or an Internet interface such as a WebTV interface could all be adapted for use in communicating with the server to provide programming information.

At pages 13-14, lines 16-23 and 1-9 respectively, please amend the first line of the paragraph as follows:

In one example embodiment of the present invention, the service provider 210 ~~may~~ is a local telephone/Internet service provider. In this instance, the customer premise and the telecommuting customers are communicatively coupled to the local service provider via local communications links. The telecommuting customers could alternatively couple to the service provider via the Internet. Effectively, this enables the telecommuting customers to function as if they were at the customer premise 220. For example, a user who normally works at the customer premise and communicates via telephone 221 can decide to stay home and work, or work remotely using a laptop computer coupled to the Internet while traveling. The off-premise customer contacts the service provider via one of the communications links and sends programming information that includes the reassignment of a telephone number that was assigned to the telephone 221. The reassignment information causes the number to be assigned to a new selected IP address, such as the IP address of the computer 252. When a telephone call is made to the telephone number associated with the telephone 221, the service provider routes that call to the newly-assigned IP address. In a similar manner, a telecommuting customer controls other options, such as voice mail messaging, call forwarding and other options.

At page 14, lines 10-22 please amend the last line of the paragraph as follows:

Various call control scenarios are adaptable for use in connection with the present invention. FIG. 3 shows one such call scenario wherein a call is made within a user premise, such as those shown by way of example in FIGs. 1 and 2. At step 1, a calling user initiates a telephone call, such as by picking up a receiver or initiating a call using a computer. An off-hook signal is sent to a router at step 2, and the router sends a dial tone back to the calling user. The calling user then dials a series of digits at step 3, the digits being indicative of a called user located within a user premise. At step 4, a ring signal is sent to the called user, and a ring-back tone is sent to the calling user at step 5. When the called user answers, an off-hook signal is sent to the router at step 6, and the router responds with a ring-back stop at step 7. A connect signal is sent to the called user at step 8, and to the calling user at step 9. Once each user receives the connect signal, a voice path is established directly between the calling user and the called user at step 10.

At page 15, lines 1-23 please amend the paragraph (line 16) as follows:

FIG. 4 shows one such call scenario wherein a call is made between a user premise and an outside party in an external network, such as those shown by way of example in FIGs. 1 and 2. At step 1, an off-hook signal is sent to the router as a result of the user initiating a telephone call, and a dial tone is sent to the user from the router in response at step 2. At step 3, the calling user then sends a signal to the router that indicates that the call is to go to an outside party, such as the digit “9” or some other signal, such as a click on a selected icon on a computer telephony application. Once the outgoing call signal is sent, the user enters a telephone number to be called at step 4 using digits or some other communication. Once the number has been entered, an end of sequence indicator is sent at step 5, such as a pound “#” digit on a telephone. The router then sends the outcall information to a gateway at step 6, and the gateway relays the outcall information to a PSTN at step 7, which then sends the signal to a called party. In the meantime, an “accepted” signal is sent from the gateway to the router at step 8, and a progress tone is sent from the router to the calling user at step 9. Once the telephony device at the called party receives the outcall signal, it returns an alert to the gateway via the PSTN at step 10. In response, the gateway sends an alert to the router at step 11, and the router sends a ring-back tone to the calling user at step 12. When the called party answers the call at step 13, an answer signal is sent to the gateway via the PSTN from the called party, and a voice path is established between the gateway and the called user. The gateway sends a connected signal to the router at step 14, and the router sends both ring-back stop and connect signals to the calling user at steps 15 and 16, respectively. A voice path is then established between the calling user and the gateway, and ultimately between the calling user and the called user.

At page 27, lines 1-12 please amend the Abstract (after “routing”) as follows:

The present invention is directed to a method and system for enhancing the routing of telephony data. According to an example embodiment of the present invention, a telephony private branch exchange routing arrangement is adapted to route IP telephony data. The routing arrangement includes a call-control application having an OOP telephony interface and programmed, using OOP and the OOP telephony interface, to control the routing of calls. A device-control application is adapted to provide telephony communication signals for the routed calls and to interface between the call-control application and a plurality of telephony devices. Configuration information for the call-control application is provided via a configuration manager. In this manner, voice and data networks are effectively fused, allowing the easy integration of computer telephony applications.